

## **Rural Levee Repair Guidelines**

### **Summarized Comments on Draft RLRG Document**

**COMMENT 1:** The details showing fill placement against the existing levee prism for erosion repair, seepage and slope stability do not show the fill being “benched” into the existing levees.

**RESPONSE 1:** Some of the templates show benching in the repair section, while others mentioned it in accompanying notes. The templates and text have been modified to be consistent and to re-iterate the need for keying into the adjacent slope.

**COMMENT 2:** Identify the specific or most likely requested requirements by permitting agencies to assist the LMAs in project planning and implementation.

**RESPONSE 2:** As the RLRG is intended as a preliminary design guide, it is beyond the scope of the document to identify specific permitting requirements. However, text has been added to the Environmental Stewardship section encouraging the LMA to engage the permitting agencies as early as possible.

**COMMENT 3:** Include specific language about aquatic ecosystems of concern within the levee footprint; management, protection and restoration of Shaded Riverine Aquatic habitat and levee vegetation; and native plant species.

**RESPONSE 3:** It is beyond the scope of the document to identify specific environmental enhancement measures as suggested in the comment. Early engagement with the permitting agencies will identify whether these measures are appropriate to the site specific work proposed. Language to this effect has been added to the environmental stewardship section.

**COMMENT 4:** Coordination with permitting agencies early in project planning will improve project efficiency and reduce costs associated with permitting and mitigation for environmental impacts.

**RESPONSE 4:** Text has been added to the Environmental Stewardship section encouraging the LMA to engage the permitting agencies as early as possible, describing the potential benefits to doing so.

**COMMENT 5:** The causes of the different levee distress mechanisms should be investigated as part of the repair process.

**RESPONSE 5:** Text has been added to the introduction to Section 3 suggesting the cause of the distress should be investigated, if possible, to identify measures to reduce future problems.

**COMMENT 6:** Were in-water repair alternatives such as bendway weirs, rock vanes or bio-technical measures considered?

**RESPONSE 6:** The RLRG describes commonly used repair alternatives. While the use of additional repair alternatives is not precluded by the RLRG, features, as suggested in the comment, were not considered as they are not frequently used and would likely require additional technical analysis.